

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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## EDITORIAL

**The LaRouche Factor in U.S. Relations with Russia and China**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—Will President Joe Biden follow in the footsteps of Mike Pompeo, President Donald Trump’s obnoxiously aggressive Secretary of State, in U.S. relations with Russia and China? That is the question that the governments of Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping are asking, one month into the new administration in Washington. The future of war and peace for the planet hangs in the balance.

The answer does not lie with personalities or public remarks—there have been many, and often contradictory statements issued in recent weeks—but with the dynamics of the underlying drive for war created by the bankrupt trans-Atlantic financial system. Helga Zepp-LaRouche addressed this issue at the very outset of her Feb. 24 weekly webcast. After noting that Biden had recently stated, both in his G7 and his Munich Security Conference speeches, that he did not want confrontation between East and West, nor a new Cold War, Zepp-LaRouche remarked:

“So, while I don’t want to exaggerate this as such, one has to see it in the context that the relationship between the United States and China is the most important strategic relationship for the future of humanity. For the simple reason that these are the two largest economies, that China is involved with Russia in a strategic alliance, and that, therefore, [it is key] to not have a confrontation and not continue where it was at the end of the Trump Administration, which was completely governed by the China-bashers such as Pompeo, Navarro, and their ilk.”

Zepp-LaRouche declared that Biden’s is a new administration, “so we have to see. I’m not making a judgment at this point” on his Russia and China policies. She also stressed that when President Trump first came into office, “in the beginning, in the election campaign 2016, and throughout the earlier part of Trump’s administration, he said many times, that to have a good relationship with Russia and China is a good thing and not a bad

thing. But then we saw how, increasingly, under the strategic pressure, and pressure from the neocons and from the military-industrial complex, Trump more and more capitulated to their confrontational line, especially in respect to China. By April of last year, he started to blame China for COVID, and all kinds of other things. So by the end of the Trump Administration, unfortunately, the relationship with Russia and China was at a historic low.”

With such pressures being brought to bear on Republicans and Democrats alike in Washington by the hit-men of the bankrupt international financial system, both Beijing and Moscow have always taken special note of the clear, unambiguous voice of Lyndon LaRouche coming from the United States, for defining a new basis for U.S. relations with China and with Russia. For example, *China Youth Daily*, the second-most widely read newspaper in China, reaching an audience of some 10 million people, ran a lead article in its July 24, 2009, edition based on an interview they had conducted with Lyndon LaRouche. Entitled “The Present International Financial System Cannot Be Saved,” the article reported:

“LaRouche proposes that the U.S. put the present financial system through bankruptcy proceedings and return to the system set up by Alexander Hamilton, and through the establishment of a national bank begin to issue credit for reviving U.S. industry. On the international level, this principle can then be extended to the world economy by means of treaty agreements among sovereign nations. Establishing an international system of fixed exchange rates among currencies would determine the price of commodities, and the treaty arrangements would provide the needed credit,” the article continued.

“LaRouche believes that if the United States, China, Russia, and India, as sovereign nations which encompass the greatest area of the world, and contain the largest population in the world, were to come together around agreement on financial arrangements, this would provide immediately the basis of a new world financial system. LaRouche believes that the

development of Asia will, in the future, take the lead in the development of humanity, and that China is the key to the Eurasian continent.”

Today, a dozen years after those remarks, the voice for that LaRouche policy is to be found with Helga Zepp-LaRouche, and with The LaRouche Organization.

## STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

### Putin Warns Against Western Schemes To Weaken Russia

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—Speaking before Russia’s Federal Security Service (FSB) board on Feb. 24, Russia’s President [Vladimir Putin](#) charged that the West continues to use “containment” to undermine and prevent Russia from developing. The complete text of his remarks is posted to the Kremlin website.

“We can see that there is no reduction in the scale of global challenges, such as terrorism, cross-border crime and cybercrime. Against this complicated background we also have to deal with the so-called containment policy towards Russia. Actually, this is something we have been well aware of for a long time. This is not competition as a natural part of international relations, but a consistent and highly aggressive policy aimed at disrupting our development, at slowing it down and creating problems along our external perimeter and contour, provoking internal instability, undermining the values that unite Russian society, and ultimately, at weakening Russia and forcing it to accept external management, just as this is happening in some post-Soviet states, as we can see,” the President outlined.

“This is not an exaggeration. In point of fact, you do not need to be convinced that this is the case, because you know this very well and possibly even better than anyone else. It is enough to read the publicly available strategic documents and the extremely direct statements made by officials in a number of countries. They are not even trying to conceal their

unfriendly attitude towards Russia and several other independent and sovereign centers of global development,” he stated.

### **U.S. NATO Commander Wolters Insists Russia Is ‘an Enduring Existential Threat to the U.S.’**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—NATO Supreme Allied Command Europe (SACEUR) and U.S. European Command commander Gen. Tod D. Wolters delivered a speech yesterday to the Feb. 24-26 Air Force Association’s Aerospace Warfare Symposium, in which he called Russia an existential threat to the U.S. “We’re in an era of global-power competition. Winning in this era is ensuring that global power competition does not become a global power war,” Wolters said. “Despite widespread international condemnation and continued economic sanctions, Russia engages in destabilizing and malign activities across the globe, with many of those activities happening close to home [in Europe].”

Russia, Wolters went on, seeks to maintain a sphere of influence from the Soviet era by retaining or employing forces to coerce neighboring Soviet-sovereign nations. In this global power competition, Russia is employing unconventional tools such as private military companies to intimidate, weaken, and divide U.S. allies and partners. “Russia remains an enduring existential threat to the United States and our European allies,” he insisted.

Wolters also attacked China, whose growing European influence centers around an aggressive economic and diplomatic campaign. Seventeen Central and Eastern European nations participate in a cooperative framework program led by China, while some European countries have bilateral agreements to build infrastructure and give China an advantage in global trade and market access, he said.

Wolters also claimed that Russia and China are militarizing the Arctic. “Facilitating sustainable economic development, fostering cooperation, and ensuring a stable, conflict-free Arctic region enhances interoperability and proficiency, while it also shows a collective resolve to uphold the rules-based order,” Wolters said. “However, Russia and China—having declared

itself a near-Arctic power—continued to militarize the region and seek to establish economic footholds to gain influence over regional governance,” he said. “The activities by Russia and China illustrate the importance for Eucom to come together with our allies and partners to maintain a credible Arctic deterrence and ensure vital sea lines of communication remain open by securing the Greenland, Iceland and United Kingdom gap.”

### **Pompeo and His China Adviser Miles Yu Repeat Lie that ‘Wuhan Lab Is COVID Source’**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—In a Feb. 23 *Wall Street Journal* commentary, Mike Pompeo and his principal China policy and planning adviser while he was at the State Department, U.S. Naval Academy Prof. Maochun Miles Yu, again beat the drums of war that “China’s Reckless Labs Put the World at Risk,” charging alleged “negligence on biosafety” by the Chinese Communist Party at its virus labs, “as evidenced by a novel coronavirus that escaped Wuhan.”

They claim “enormous” evidence of this accusation, while baldly admitting that said evidence is “largely circumstantial.” Leading the list of “largely circumstantial” evidence they present are the two regularly cited 2018 State Department cables which warned of alleged biosafety problems at the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

Conclusion: “Most signs point to the Wuhan Institute of Virology, or WIV, as the source of COVID-19. In America, concern about the site is now broad and bipartisan. The Biden Administration stated that it has ‘deep concerns’ about the World Health Organization’s investigation into the early days of the pandemic, particularly Beijing’s interference with the investigators’ work,” the duo write. “The Chinese Communist Party’s recklessness has already cost the world too much, and its obfuscation guarantees this won’t be the last such tragedy.... The Chinese government must change course. It must be open about its biosafety systems, fix its errors and curtail its dangerous ambitions. Lives and livelihoods across the world are on the line. We all have a responsibility to make sure that the Chinese Communist Party isn’t given a free pass.”

## **Global Times Counters, Pompeo Is Still Poisoning U.S.-China Relations**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—An op-ed in yesterday’s *Global Times* by Mu Lu goes after the ongoing damage being done to U.S.-China relations by Mike Pompeo, even though he is no longer Secretary of State. Mu pointed to an article by Pompeo and China hand Maochun Miles Yu, in the Feb. 22 *Wall Street Journal*, that retailed the usual lies about China.

“China-U.S. relations were severely damaged under Trump’s Presidency, and the forces that poisoned the two countries’ relations didn’t stop after Trump left office,” Mu wrote. “Conservative careerists are still making waves and continue to kidnap the American system, symbolizing the tragedy of the U.S.” Mu also reported that Pompeo is scheduled to speak at this week’s Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), which will be addressed by former President Donald Trump on Feb. 28. “Unsurprisingly, the agenda of the event includes China; and COVID-19 related topics are unlikely to be absent,” in which China will be blamed for the global pandemic.

Mu concludes: “This ‘largest and most influential gathering of conservatives in the world’ reflects those conservatives’ true nature of having no moral bottom line. Continuing on this path, the U.S. is brewing new political crises.”

## **At UN Mission Briefing Polyanskiy Says, Despite Biden’s Nasty Munich Remarks, Russia Is Open To Cooperate**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—Expressing Russia’s concern over President Joe Biden’s Feb. 19 statements at the Munich Security Conference, Russia’s First Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Dmitry Polyanskiy responded to a media question during a briefing on Feb. 24 that Biden’s remarks “are naturally giving cause for concerns about how we will substantially cooperate with the U.S.” He emphasized that “the logic of containing Russia ... of Russia being an enemy” is still there and, therefore, “it’s very difficult to imagine how the interaction with us might change with such starting positions of the new administration.”

Nonetheless, as far as Russia is concerned, cooperation between Russia and the U.S. should go forward, he said. Referring to his Jan. 27 briefing, Polyanskiy remarked: “As I said last time, we have received certain encouraging positive signals. The START treaty was prolonged. We very much welcome the positive developments on the JCPOA. There are certain other issues that can be highlighted that give reason to certain optimism. But of course, we will judge the new administration by what it does. There are a lot of things that Russia and the United States can do together. We are in favor of cooperation. We’re in favor of close contacts on this issue. Again, I’m sorry for citing this all the time, but it takes two to tango, we are ready to dance, but we need a good and reliable partner who knows all the moves and respects us as a country.”

Speaking at the Feb. 19 Munich Security Conference, Biden claimed that Russia was seeking to weaken NATO and the European Union and accused Moscow of being behind the cyber attacks on the U.S. and Europe.

### **Antonov Encourages Renewed Contacts Among Chiefs of General Staffs of Arctic States**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—Commander of the U.S. Navy Second Fleet Adm. Andrew Lewis remarked that the U.S. is concerned over the military aspect of Russia’s activity in the Arctic, despite the fact that Washington admits that Moscow has all grounds to develop activity in the region, wrote TASS in a report on Russian Ambassador Anatoly Antonov’s Feb. 24 interview with Zvezda TV, the network of the Defense Ministry. “I have told the American colleagues several times that we used to have a wonderful line of communication between chiefs of general staffs of Arctic states. This could be recovered and continue functioning,” Ambassador Antonov said, responded to a question from Zvezda TV. Russia will chair the Arctic Council as of this year until 2023.

Antonov reminded viewers that the Arctic is one of the matters on which Russia and the U.S. can hold a dialogue. “Have a look at what is going on in the media right now. It was reported that the Americans were involved in dropping bombs on the territory of Sweden with the use of their

planes in Norway,” he said. “And yet, we are saying that the Arctic and the zone of Arctic states is a zone of cooperation, peace, kindness and economic cooperation.”

### **India and Pakistan Agree To Stop Cross-Border Fire in Kashmir**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—In a joint statement the Director Generals of Military Operations of India and Pakistan have agreed to completely stop the firing along the border, including the Line of Control, as of midnight today. The statement read: “The Director Generals of Military Operations of India and Pakistan held discussions over the established mechanism of hotline contact. The two sides reviewed the situation along the Line of Control and all other sectors in a free, frank and cordial atmosphere.

“In the interest of achieving mutually beneficial and sustainable peace along the borders, the two DGsMO agreed to address each other’s core issues and concerns which have propensity to disturb peace and lead to violence. Both sides agreed for strict observance of all agreements, understandings and cease firing along the Line of Control and all other sectors with effect from midnight 24/25 Feb. 2021.

“Both sides reiterated that existing mechanisms of hotline contact and border flag meetings will be utilized to resolve any unforeseen situation or misunderstanding,” their statement concludes.

Yesterday, addressing the Sri Lanka-Pakistan Trade and Investment Conference in Colombo, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said that the only dispute India and Pakistan have is Kashmir and it can only be resolved through dialogue,” reported India Today. He explained further: “Immediately when I came into power, I approached our neighbor India and explained to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the way forward for the subcontinent is to resolve our differences through dialogue. I did not succeed but I am optimistic that eventually sense will prevail. The only way the subcontinent can tackle poverty is by improving trade relations.”

For almost two years cross-border incidents have threatened to escalate into a major conflict in a region that has been disputed ever since the two countries achieved independence from the British Empire in 1947.

## UNITED STATES POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

### Trump Rips Into 'Political Persecution' via Fascist Lawfare

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)— Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance finally got his hands on former President Donald Trump's tax records on Feb. 22; he had subpoenaed eight years of tax records and related documents going back to August 2019, to feed his grand jury investigation into all things financial related to Trump.

Trump responded with a "Statement on the Continuing Political Persecution of President Donald J. Trump," denouncing this New York City operation as another "continuation of the greatest political Witch Hunt in the history of our Country," right up there with Mueller's "Russia, Russia, Russia" hoax and the two impeachment attempts inspired by "Crazy Nancy."

"These are attacks by Democrats willing to do anything to stop the almost 75 million people ... who voted for me in the election—an election which many people, and experts, feel that I won. I agree!"

Trump tore into what has become known as "lawfare:"

"The new phenomenon of 'headhunting' prosecutors and AGs—who try to take down their political opponents using the law as a weapon—is a threat to the very foundation of our liberty. That's what is done in third world countries" —usually at the behest of the U.S. Department of Justice, he might have pointed out. "Even worse are those who run for prosecutorial or attorney general offices in far-left states and jurisdictions pledging to take out a political opponent. That's fascism—not justice—and that is exactly what they are trying to do with respect to me, except the people of our Country won't stand for it. In the meantime." Trump further pointed out, "murders and violent crime are up in New York City by record

numbers, and nothing is done about it.... I will fight on, just as I have, for the last five years....”

The political persecution of Donald Trump is not merely a Democratic obsession. Liz Cheney, infamous daughter of warmonger in chief Dick Cheney, and still the third highest-ranking Republican in the House, reiterated yesterday at a House Republican news conference, when asked about Trump’s speaking at the Conservative Political Action Conference on Sunday: “I don’t believe that he should be playing a role in the future of the party or the country.”

### **Democrats Propose Unconstitutional Changes to President’s Nuclear Command Authority**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—A group of House Democrats is calling on President Joe Biden to give up the President’s sole authority over launching nuclear weapons. “Vesting one person with this authority entails real risks,” reads the letter from Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-CA). “Past Presidents have threatened to attack other countries with nuclear weapons or exhibited behavior that caused other officials to express concern about the President’s judgment.” The letter was first reported on by *Politico*, which put it behind a firewall, but Fox News reported that Panetta said in a Feb. 22 tweet that he is “calling on” Biden “to install checks [and] balances in our nuclear command-and-control structure.”

The letter continues: “While any President would presumably consult with advisors before ordering a nuclear attack, there is no requirement to do so. The military is obligated to carry out the order if they assess it is legal under the laws of war. Under the current posture of U.S. nuclear forces, that attack would happen in minutes.” Democrats offered some alternatives to sole nuclear authority, such as requiring the Vice President and House Speaker to agree with a launch order from the President before it is executed, according to *Politico*.

Not mentioned is that this proposal is a clear violation of the Constitution, which makes the President the sole commander-in-chief. Not only is the Vice President not part of the chain of command, but insinuating

the Speaker of the House into the command-and-control system would clearly violate the constitutional separation of powers.

## COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

### Soaring European 'Carbon' Market Thrills London, but Still Worries That U.S. Is Not Securely on Board

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—The City of London's *The Economist* magazine on Feb. 24 hailed the 60% surge in prices on the European carbon-emissions trading market since last November as a sign that the market is finally "Coming Into Its Own," as it headlined its report. The European market is far and away the biggest carbon trading operation in the world. *The Economist* points to the entry of some 230 "investment funds" into the trading—speculators like Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, and big hedge funds—as signalling that the market is "joining the financial mainstream." And they are entering, because "carbon seems like a one-way bet." The European Union's Dec. 11th order to increase the required cuts in emissions by 2030 to 55% of 1990 levels, instead of "only" by 40%, combined with the entry of the big speculators, sent emission "allowance" prices soaring, with bets that the price will rise ("long positions") doubling since November.

*The Economist* has spent much of the past week, however, in various articles, including a monster piece of 3,500 words, ruminating about how to ensure that the United States joins the murderous decarbonization frenzy in the way it must, if London is to have a shot at imposing its scheme upon the entire world. "While few question Mr. Biden's sincerity to turn things round, America's ability to keep to its word on climate change looks vulnerable to the next Republican election win," one article warned. Another reminded readers that the U.S. Congress has not passed any overall climate legislation since 2009, which forced Barack Obama to impose the desired messages by executive orders, which were then overturned by President Donald Trump. If Biden is unable to impose a sufficiently aggressive decarbonization program, no matter how strong John Kerry is,

*The Economist* warns in its typically British way, the United States will lack “the license to persuade, shame, and where appropriate, bully” other countries—such as China.

While it presents many a suggestion, scenario, and order as to how to handle U.S. politics to secure London’s goal, the rag’s controllers make clear that they are pinning their hope of cracking opposition, on tightening the cutoff of financing to any that don’t play ball. Republican business donors being squeezed by “asset managers,” can be lined up behind “Biden’s” net-zero carbon plans. A January statement of support for a “durable climate policy” with “well-designed market mechanisms” from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, once considered “an implacable adversary” to the Green fraud, is viewed as another hopeful sign that pressure from the corporate sector might break Republican and conservative Democrat opposition.

### **Nuclear Exit Is Expensive Adventure for Germany**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—U.S.-based energy expert Michael Shellenberger has calculated that, had Germany in the past 10 years invested \$580 billion in nuclear energy instead of renewables, it would already be getting 100% of its energy from so-called clean sources. Instead, the money has flowed into “renewables” projects like solar and wind, which so far produce less than 50% of Germany’s “clean” energy. By comparison, France produces 93% of its electricity from clean energy sources, with about 70% generated from nuclear power—which is actually clean—at only half the cost of electricity.

Between 2006 and 2019, electricity production from nuclear power plants in the EU decreased by 16.3%, mainly because of Germany’s plans to shut down its reactors by the end of 2022.

### **Fed Chair Powell Tells Congress: Relax; the QE Is Not Going To Stop**

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell testified yesterday before the House of Representatives Committee on Financial Services that the Fed will not change its over-the-top quantitative easing policy for the foreseeable future. He had said pretty much the same thing

on Feb. 23 to a Senate hearing, repeating the line that has dominated Fed policy for the last year or more. A foreign exchange strategist at the National Australia Bank, Rodrigo Cattrill, caught the gist of it: “The punchbowl ain’t going anywhere anytime soon and the policy backdrop should remain supportive for risk assets for some time.” Perhaps Cattrill should have referred to it as a Kool Aid bowl, to be more precise.

## THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMIC ORDER

### China Commerce Minister Looks Forward to Joint Efforts with the U.S.

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—China’s Commerce Minister Wang Wentao told a press conference yesterday that he would seek to improve relations with the U.S., building on the two-hour phone call that took place Feb. 10 between President Xi Jinping and President Joe Biden. “In the next stage, I look forward to our joint efforts with colleagues in the U.S., in accordance with the recent phone call between the two leaders, to enhance communication and understanding, focus on cooperation, manage differences, and push bilateral economic and trade relations back to the track of cooperation.” Xinhua reported that Wang stated that “China is ready to strengthen economic and trade exchanges with the United States, and carry out cooperation on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit.”

## SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### NPR Gets It Right, for Once: To Go To Mars, We Need Nuclear-Powered Rockets

Feb. 25 (EIRNS)—National Public Radio (NPR) reported yesterday on comments by Roger Myers, an independent aerospace consultant and co-chair of a panel convened by the National Academies National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study nuclear propulsion. “If we decide to send humans to Mars, nuclear propulsion is likely to be central to that journey,” Myers stated. A book-length new report by Myers and colleagues, *Space Nuclear Propulsion for Human Mars Exploration*, so far

only in prepublication form, says that spending by NASA is “going to have to be ramped up significantly if we’re going to hit 2039” for a nuclear-based mission.

NPR explained, “The idea of using nuclear reactors for propulsion dates back to the earliest days of the U.S. space program. In the 1950s and 1960s, scientists with what was then called the Atomic Energy Commission developed a series of nuclear rockets. The program was conducted in collaboration for NASA and developed working prototypes. But it was cancelled in the early 1970s, after it became clear the missions for which it was needed, to travel to Mars and the Moon, were unlikely to go forward.

“Nuclear-powered rockets are needed both to minimize the travel time to Mars, as well as to reduce the amount of time astronauts would have to stay there before being able to return. Under normal fuels, “astronauts would be required to stay on Mars for 500 days while waiting for a planetary alignment that would let them get back to Earth using as little propellant as possible. Nuclear power, by contrast, could allow the mission to be completed with less fuel and in a shorter amount of time. Because of the extra thrust provided by nuclear rocket motors, astronauts would be able to take a shortcut back to Earth by spiraling around the Sun and Venus. The mission would also mean a shorter first stay on Mars of only about a month, as opposed to 500 days.”

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Friday, February 26, 2021: Every weekday morning on [The LaRouche Organization](#) website, Harley will give you the strategic briefing on what you need to know to start your day.